

# An Excellent Ruling.

The Postoffice department has made an exceedingly interesting ruling with regard to the use of postal cards. The case was presented from Somerville, Massachusetts, but is just as interesting here as there. It seems that the municipal authorities there had been notifying taxpayers by postal card of delinquency and threatening certain results in the court if failure to pay. This the authorities under the ruling in question forbid.

The propriety of that interpretation of the law will be almost universally acknowledged. A strict construction of the postal laws would come very near prohibiting threats of every kind. Of course, it must not be understood that the statement of an account and request for settlement is a threat; even the statement that after a time legal processes for collection would be adopted. But threats of extreme measures to humiliate the debtor is a cruelty that is properly forbidden under the ruling in question.

The Postoffice department is maintained to accommodate the public, and not for the purpose of humiliating or coercing people to do or not to do anything. The present managers of the department are determined to conform the service to its legitimate uses and the ruling in question is a substantial evidence that they understand their obligations. —Kansas City Times.

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